WE CLAIM:

1. A status indicator for a heating region on a substantially colourless and transparent ceramic glass cook top with an opaque layer on sections of the underside comprising:

indication means positioned directly underneath said cook top proximate to said heating region wherein a portion of said opaque layer has been removed thereby allowing said indication means to be visible directly above said cook top, and

control means which determines the surface temperature of said cook top above said heating region and energises said indication means when said surface of said cook top reaches a predetermined temperature and de-energises said indication means when said surface of said cook top falls below said predetermined temperature.

2. A status indicator according to claim 1 wherein said control means comprises an electric circuit fed from a transformer less supply.

3. A status indicator according to claims 1 or 2 wherein the colour emitted by said indication means is dependent on whether said heating region is energised.

4. A status indicator according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein said indication means is a light emitting diode.

5. A status indicator according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein said control means includes heat sensing means positioned in close proximity of said heating region, the electrical characteristics of which are temperature dependent.

6. A status indicator according to claim 5 wherein said heat sensing means is a bimetallic switch.

7. A status indicator according to claim 5 wherein said heating sensing means is a thermistor.

8. A status indicator according to claim 5 wherein said heating sensing means is a positive temperature coefficient paste coated on the underside of said cook top.

9. A status indicator according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein said predetermined temperature is the maximum temperature for which human skin can safely be exposed to.

10. A status indicator according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein said predetermined temperature is 50°C.